

THE Spacemaker

NEWSLETTER

VOL. 1, No. 24

MCCLELLAN AIR FORCE BASE, CALIF. (<http://www.mcclellan.af.mil/PA/spacemaker.html>)

JUNE 22, 2000

TAKE NOTE

Legal closed for special function

The legal office will be closed for a special function today from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. July 7 the office will close at 2 p.m.

Commissary closed for holiday

The McClellan Commissary will be closed July 4, in observance of Independence Day.

Spacemaker holiday

The *Spacemaker* will not be published July 6, in observance of the 4th of July holiday. Please submit all items for publication in the June 29 issue by Friday.

Electrical outage

An electrical outage is set for Sunday from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. in Bldgs. 701, 702, 703, 704, 706, 710, 712, 714 and Radian Trailers, 1206, 1207, 1208, 1209, 1210, 1211, 1213, 1214, 1215 and 1216.

SNEAK PEEK

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"Completing the mission of McClellan Air Force Base with professionalism and honor"



U.S. Air Force photo by Sandra Kosmatin

77th Support Group receives new commander

Lt. Col. Robert P. Spracale (right) assumed command of the 77th Support Group during a change of command ceremony Friday. Col. Charlie Cotter, (left) 77th Air Base Wing commander, presided over the ceremony, as Chief Master Sgt. Keith Ward, 77th SPTG superintendent, held the guidon. (Inset) Former 77th Support Group commander, Col. Michael Ittis, Spracale and Cotter salute the flag during the national anthem.



U.S. Air Force photo by Henry Walker

Tax incentives for McClellan Park

By Smokey Bassett

Public Affairs

At a ceremony held in Bldg. 1 here, the California Trade and Commerce Agency Secretary Lon S. Hatamiya announced that McClellan and Mather Field have earned final designation under the state's Local Area Military Base Recovery Area program. The program provides a number of incentives to new and existing companies located on the facilities.

Joined at the signing by State Senator Deborah Ortiz and Roger Dickenson, chairman of the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, Secretary Hatamiya said, "The

LAMBRA program is a key tool targeted to address the needs of two areas vital to the region's economy." Companies will have access to various sales and use tax credits, hiring credits will be paid to employers who hire displaced base workers, and other inducements on or after July 1.

Mather and McClellan Park is the sixth LAMBRA zone under this program that is overseen by the state Trade and Commerce Agency. Since its inception in 1993, these zones have assisted in the reemployment of 3,241 workers and the creation or expansion of 121 business locations. Private investment has increased from \$17.25 million in 1997/98 to \$31.3 million in 1998/99.

Recognize hot weather warning signs, drink fluids

We couldn't wait for the nice weather, and now we find that the heat in the greater Sacramento Valley is becoming a little warmer than we anticipated.

With the hot days of summer upon us, we all tend to spend more time outdoors, exposing ourselves to some major hot weather hazards.

Symptoms, caused by overexposure to the heat and overexertion, are profuse sweating, cramps in the abdomen and extremities, dizziness, faintness, weakness, nausea, thirst, headaches and fatigue.

The human body can survive only at a narrow range of core temperatures -- the temperature which is measured deep within the body. Core temperatures that vary more than two or three degrees from the normal 98.6 degrees Fahrenheit impede mental and physical performance; five or six degrees can be fatal. Fortunately, the human body has a system that constantly monitors and controls body temperature.

The regulation of body temperature is controlled by a thermostat in the inner part of the brain, which reacts to temperature changes in the body by stimulating responses from receptors in the skin.

In cold conditions, the receptors restrict the flow of blood near the surface of the skin. In warm conditions, the receptors dilate the blood vessels near the skin surface, providing improved blood flow to increase heat loss through the skin. At the same time, sweat glands release perspiration. The evaporation of sweat on the skin cools the blood near the surface, which is then circulated through the body.

Heat exhaustion results from failure to replace water lost through prolonged sweating. The main symptoms are thirst, dizziness and fatigue. Treatment and prevention are the same: **drink plenty of water.** In extremely hot weather, it may be necessary to drink up to 10 pints of water per day.

Heat stroke is always a life-threatening condition. Characterized by a sudden onset of delirium and coma, it is brought about

by the total failure of the thermo-regulatory system. Heat stroke usually occurs when the body (core) temperature climbs above 105 degrees Fahrenheit. At this temperature, the system simply quits. The only first aid is to cool the victim as soon as possible by moving him to the shade. Remember -- the victim is near death, so **call for medical attention immediately.** The best prevention of heat stroke is to avoid exertion in hot temperatures and drink plenty of water.

Subtle effects: The effects of heat stress are not restricted to the more dramatic characteristics such as heat stroke. Variations within the extremes have a more subtle effect on physical and mental functions. Consider that when a worker loses 2.5 percent of their body weight (about 2 1/2 quarts of water), they lose 25 percent of their ability to function mentally and physically.

Acclimatization: Fortunately, the human body has the ability to adapt to heat stress. Some people adapt to climate within a few weeks, while others may never adapt. This depends on the individual's physical condition and, to a certain extent, physical makeup.

During adjustment, the normal sweat response gradually becomes more efficient, allowing better evaporative cooling. Additionally, there are changes in circulation. The amount of blood is increased, providing more heat loss through the skin without depriving the normal body functions.

Prevention: In most cases, the effects of heat stress can be prevented, or at least limited, by following these helpful guidelines:

- Plan your activities early in the day.
- Drink plenty of water prior to hot weather excursions. (Thirst is a poor indicator of the body's need for water.)
- Maintain good physical condition through a sensible exercise routine.
- Open car windows in advance of entering the car. Keep the windows cracked when the car is not in use.

(Information provided by the McClellan Safety Office.)

SPACEMAKER

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Spacemaker.html
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Air Force Vision

"Air Force people building the world's most respected air and space force ... global power and reach for America"

Air Force Materiel Command Vision

"Quality Systems for America's Air Force"

Sacramento Air Logistics Center Vision

"Completing the mission of McClellan AFB with professionalism and honor"

Program opens doors for Federal employees

The President issued a memorandum Sept. 12, 1995, directing all Federal agencies to establish career transition assistance programs to assist surplus and displaced workers in finding other jobs as the Federal Government undergoes downsizing and restructuring.

In accordance with this memorandum, the Interagency Career Transition Assistance Plan was created Feb. 29, 1996. Eligibility for special selection priority begins on the date an agency issues a reduction in force separation notice.

ICTAP is an employee initiated program. Unlike the Department of Defense Priority Placement Program, employees must apply directly to the agency for consideration for each vacancy announcement, attach appropriate proof of eligibility and be determined well-qualified.

To be eligible for the special selection priority, an individual must meet all of the following conditions:

- a. Be a current or former, career or career-conditional competitive service employee in tenure group I or II, who has received a **specific** RIF separation notice;
- b. Have a current, or last, performance rating of record of at least fully successful;
- c. Apply for a vacancy at or below the grade level from which the employee has been or is being separated. **NOTE: The vacancy cannot have greater promotion potential than the position from which the employee has been or is being separated;**
- d. Occupies, or was displaced from, a position in the same local commuting area of the vacancy;
- e. Files an application for a specific vacancy within the time frames established by the agency; and
- f. Determined by the agency to be well qualified for the specific position.

Agencies will review the application material. If an employee meets all of the qualification requirements of the announced vacancy, is considered well qualified for the job, and the vacancy is in the same local commuting area from which an eligible displaced employee occupies/occupied a position, selection is mandatory over any candidate from outside the agency. If two or more eligible displaced employees apply, any one may be selected.

Examples of Recruitment and Placement actions **not** restricted by ICTAP: appointment of 10 point Veterans; reemployment of former employees who have regulatory or statutory reemployment rights; temporary appointments of under 90 days; the filling of a position by an excepted appointment (i.e., VRA, severely disabled, etc.); conversion of employees on excepted appointment that confer eligibility for noncompetitive conversion to competitive service (i.e., Student Career Experience Program, VRA, etc.); and merit promotion actions within the agency.

Eligibility for the ICTAP expires when any of the following points apply:

- a. One year after separation;
- b. One year after agency certifies employee on worker's compensation cannot be placed;
- c. One year after notification that disability retirement has been or will be terminated;
- d. When the employee receives a career, career-conditional or excepted appointment without time limit in any agency;
- e. When the employee no longer meets the eligibility requirements (e.g., the employee is no longer being separated by RIF or separates by resignation or non-discontinued service retirement prior to the RIF effective date); or
- f. With a specific agency (e.g., Dept. of Interior), upon declination of an official of-

fer to the employee by that agency.

Other employees who may be entitled to the special selection priority under the ICTAP include:

- a. Current or former career or career-conditional employees who were separated because of a compensable injury, whose compensation has been terminated and whose former agency is unable to place them (performance rating does not apply);
- b. A former career or career-conditional competitive service employee, in tenure group I or II, who retired with a disability, whose disability annuity has been, or is being, terminated (performance rating does not apply);
- c. A former career or career-conditional competitive service employee, in tenure group I or II, in receipt of a RIF separation notice, who retired on the effective date of the RIF, or under the discontinued service retirement option;
- d. A former career or career-conditional competitive service employee, in tenure group I or II, who is separated because he/she declined a transfer of function, or directed reassignment, to another commuting area; and
- e. A former Military Reserve Technician or National Guard Technician who is receiving a special disability retirement annuity (performance rating does not apply).

Questions regarding specific vacancies and "well-qualified" requirements should be addressed to the specific activity or agency that is conducting the recruitment.

Information regarding skills assessment, resume preparation, counseling and job search assistance is available through the Civilian Personnel FOCUS Center located in Bldg. 200, Room 40. For more information, call the FOCUS Center at 643-5661. (*Article submitted by Civilian Personnel.*)

Looking for a civilian job? Here's help

Jerry Crews, deputy director of the Officer Placement Service for The Retired Officers Association, an expert on transitioning from military to civilian employment, will be here July 11, 9-11:30 a.m. at the McClellan Community Center, Bldg. 1425, to talk to officers, senior noncommissioned officers, civilians, and spouses on "Marketing Yourself for a Second Career".

In his free 2 1/2 hour presentation, Crews will introduce the audience to the realities of the competition in the civilian job market; the perceptions civilian employers have of military personnel; a plan for

the job search; tips for strengthening the resume; networking plans; preparing for and conducting a successful interview and salary negotiations and benefit packages.

The presentation is up-to-date and has a reputation as a "must attend" for those 3 years, or less, from separation or retirement.

Military members, civilians and their spouses, are invited to attend the free lecture. A free copy of the publication, *Marketing Yourself for a Second Career*, will be available.

For more information, call Gina Walker at 643-1106.

Airman's manual training session today

The 77th Communications Squadron will host a training session on the Airman's manual, section 3, today in Bldg. 237 theater. For more information, call 643-4198. The 77th Mission Support Squadron will host a training session on the Airman's manual, section 3, June 29, in Bldg. 237 theater. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Larry Cocker at 643-0293.

DRMO holding sealed bid sale today

The Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office at McClellan is conducting a local sealed bid sale today. Property is combined in like commodity groups and sold in various size lots.

This sale is going to be held entirely in Bldg. 783-J. The new sales office is in Bldg. 783-A, Room 122. To enter DRMO through the Main Avenue gate take Raley Boulevard north from I-80 to Main Avenue, turn right and enter the Main Avenue gate. Once inside the gate, turn left and follow the road around to Bldg. 783 Bay J.

For more information, call the local DRMO office at 643-3830.

Aviation Museum golf tournament Friday

The McClellan Aviation Museum Foundation is holding its 8th Annual Benefit Golf Tournament Friday at Lawrence Links Golf Course. The tournament is limited to the first 72 AM and 72 PM golfers. Start time is as follows: AM Flight 7: 30 a.m. and PM Flight 12:30 p.m. Cost is \$33 for E1-E4; \$39 for E5-E9; \$33 for prefix 0, 7 and 8 members; \$35 for prefix 6 members; \$50 for Department of Defense civilians and spouses; and \$54 for all other players. Carts are now mandatory for all LLGC tournaments. Cost includes: green fees, cart, buffet lunch starting at 11 a.m., drink cart, post tournament snacks, prizes and awards.

For more information or to register, call Tony Gabbard at 643-3192 or Allen Taylor at 643-5209.

Recce Point golf tournament Friday

The Beale Community Economic Concerns Committee and Yuba-Sutter Community is sponsoring a golf tournament Friday at Recce Point Golf Course. Select Shot Tournament -- four-person format with a noon shotgun start time. Cost is \$35 per person. Fee includes green fees, cart and lunch. Proceeds benefit Youth Leadership Day.

For more information, call Capt. Rene Tomas at (530) 634-9351 or Billy Wagster at (530) 822-5340 for prize donations or to sponsor a hole.

NCOA/MDA Bowl Saturday

The McClellan chapters of the Noncommissioned Officers Association will host their 8th annual Bowling Against Dystrophy Challenge, Saturday at Mardi Gras Lanes on Madison Avenue.

The 9-pin, no tap event will consist of four-person teams and will begin at 1 p.m. with registration starting at noon. The event is open to everyone. Each bowler is asked to collect at least \$50 in pledges to register. Bowling, shoe rental and lunch are included.

Trophies will be awarded along with door prizes. Last year's event raised more than \$3,000 for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Register a team or individually and you will be placed on a team.

To register a team or for additional information, call Airman 1st Class

Cassandra Owens at 643-8041 or Chief Master Sgt. Jim Sullivan at 643-6808.

Volunteers needed Saturday

Volunteers are needed to help with "United We Build", a weekend of community service activities Saturday, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Eskaton Village in Carmichael, 3939 Walnut Ave. Each volunteer will be given masking tape, a pan of paint and a narrow roller to paint the curbs bright red or green for improved safety and parking control.

The senior residents and other volunteers will be around, so it is a good opportunity to meet new people while doing good work. Volunteers are encouraged to wear hats and sunscreen, as this project will take place in direct sun light. Be aware that this project is messy, so dress accordingly. Refreshments will be provided. **Note:** The culmination of this exciting weekend will take place Sunday, 4 p.m. on the East steps of the Capitol.

To volunteer and for more information, call Master Sgt. Jeffrey Skinner at 643-5104 or Staff Sgt. Silvia Wadkins at 643-4512.

AFSA, NCOA annual picnic reservation deadline Monday

Chapter 1322 and A1322 of the Air Force Sergeants Association and the Noncommissioned Officers Association are hosting their annual picnic July 4 at McClellan's Freedom Park. Festivities begin at 11 a.m. The event is free to all AFSA and NCOA members, their guests and families. RSVP no later than Monday, to Nick Everett at 331- 8570.

For more information, call the Master Sgt. Steve Diamond, chapter president, at 643-2321.

Hazardous Waste training scheduled for Tuesday

The next Hazardous Waste Management training is scheduled to be held Tuesday in Bldg. 237 theater. Hazardous Waste training is offered the 4th Tuesday of every month for supervisors, hazardous waste managers and unit environmental coordinators.

Training is broken into two sessions:

- Awareness and Operational, 8 a.m. to noon
- Refresher, 1 - 2:30 p.m.

Individuals that have attended the awareness and operational training within the past year will be scheduled for the refresher course.

For more information or scheduling, contact individual unit training managers or contact Bob Petersen in Environmental Management at 643-0228, Ext. 420.

VSIP, VERA announcement open

The Voluntary Separation Incentive Pay and Voluntary Early Retirement Authority announcement is open through June 30.

This is the last opportunity for employees to apply for VSIP/VERA for separation no later than April 13, 2001.

Employees with a current reduction in forces separation notice with an effective date of Sept. 29 are encouraged to apply as well. A copy of the announcement, application and information packet can be obtained at the civilian personnel office, Bldg. 200, Room 45 or the FOCUS Center, Bldg. 200, Room 40.

Submit completed applications to civilian personnel by 4 p.m. June 30. For more information, call Joanne Hammond at 643-5940 or 643-0048.

Base, county exercise successful



U.S. Air Force photos by 2nd Lt. Robert A. Firman



Sacramento County and McClellan Air Force Base emergency response teams practiced their craft June 13 in an exercise on base. Base and county teams responded to a simulated biological threat. Left: Base and county responders discuss the status of the exercise. Right: Exercise "victims" are scrubbed down and decontaminated.

Bronze Star recognizes valor, meritorious service

WASHINGTON -- As the Air Force evolves into an expeditionary air and space force with expansive reach back capabilities, the likelihood exists for more and more airmen to be recognized for their support of combat operations even if they are outside the area of hostilities.

One particular means of recognition, the Bronze Star Medal, is often equated with acts of valor and heroism. Not many may realize it is also awarded for meritorious service. Since its inception in 1944, the Bronze Star Medal has been presented for meritorious service performed outside the area of hostilities, according to Col. George Ballinger, commander of the Air Force History Support Office. Most recently, airmen serving in Kosovo operations have been awarded the Bronze Star medal for acts of valor in the area of hostilities and for meritorious service outside of it, said Lt. Gen. Donald L. Peterson, Air Force deputy chief of staff for personnel.

The changing nature of Air Force missions has made geographic location of combat forces a secondary concern. This evolution dates back to the Korean War, when airmen stationed on Okinawa were awarded the Bronze Star Medal for "meritorious service in connection with military operations against Northern Korea," Ballinger said.

"It's important to realize that as the Air Force has evolved to an expeditionary air and space force, the role of our airmen

who contribute to the success of wartime operations has changed," Peterson said. "We now have airmen who are outside the area of hostilities who, due to their leadership and actions, directly affect the outcome and success of our operations." For example, several individuals awarded Bronze Stars for Kosovo were involved in the Predator program. The Predator provided the Air Force with its first unmanned aerial vehicle-based lethal kill capability. Their meritorious achievements directly contributed to the success of Operation Allied Force.

Last year, following operations in Kosovo, the Air Force convened an awards and decorations board process at U.S. Air Forces in Europe headquarters at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, to look at these and other cases of meritorious service and valor. Using established guidelines and criteria, the Bronze Star Medal was approved for 246 airmen, ranging from pararescuemen who took part in the rescue of a downed pilot, to officers and enlisted in Europe and stateside, who directly contributed to the campaign's success. There were 131 Bronze Star Medals approved for airmen in the area of hostilities; and 115 medals awarded to airmen who played a pivotal role to the campaign while outside the area of hostilities. When reviewing the Kosovo operations Bronze Star Medal nominations, board members considered the following questions:

■ Did their action contribute significantly and directly to the combat operation?

■ Would the operation have been successful without that person?

■ Were they in a position of leadership or significant responsibility?

According to its established criteria, the Bronze Star Medal is presented to people who have distinguished themselves by heroic or meritorious service or achievement, not involving participation in aerial flight under any of the following circumstances: while engaged in an action against an enemy of the United States; while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force; while serving with friendly foreign forces engaged in an armed conflict against an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party.

In approving the Bronze Star Medal for those serving outside the area of hostilities, the USAFE awards board noted there are no geographical constraints for the medal listed in its executive order or the Defense Department manual.

"Throughout the years, the nature of air warfare has changed," Peterson said, "and so must we." "When the Bronze Star Medal was created in 1944, there wasn't even an Air Force," he said.

"The existing guidelines for awards and decorations allow us to recognize those people who have earned their recognition on today's battlefield, which now oftentimes occurs outside the combat zone." (AFNS)

FOCUS CENTER

This section contains some of the job announcements available at the McClellan Air Force Base FOCUS Center. For additional information, contact the FOCUS Center, Bldg. 200, Room 40, at 643-5661. The center is open Monday and Wednesday 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Note: Copies of the vacancy announcements are available in the FOCUS Center. Review the announcement and contact the agency for KSAs and/or additional information.

Position: Secretary Office Automation, GS-318-05

Annnc#: CA-00-114MR

Close: June 30

Location: Sacramento, CA

Agency: Bureau of Land Management

POC: Human Resources Services 978-4460

Remarks: See note.

Position: Personnel Actions Clerk (Office Automation) GS-0203-05/06

Annnc#: CA-00-109

Close: June 30

Location: Sacramento, CA

Agency: Bureau of Land Management

POC: Human Resource Services 978-4460

Remarks: See note.

Position: Area Manager (FM) GS-0301-14

Annnc#: CC-00-2823

Close: June 30

Location: Central San Francisco, CA

Agency: Treasury Internal Revenue Service

POC: Virginia R. Garner (202) 622-8800

Remarks: See note.

Position: Program Analyst GS-0343-12/13

Annnc#: MA-2000-32

Close: June 27

Location: San Francisco, CA

Agency: Dot, Maritime Administration

POC: Lilita Stewart (202) 366-4141

Remarks: See note.

Position: Personnel Actions Clerk (Office Automation) GS-0203-05/06

Annnc#: CA-00-108

Close: June 30

Location: Sacramento, CA

Agency: Bureau of Land Management

POC: Human Resource Services 978-4460

Remarks: See note.

Position: Program Analyst GS-0343-12/13

Annnc#: DEU-2000-32

Close: June 27

Location: San Francisco, CA

Agency: DOT, Maritime Administration

POC: Lilita Stewart (202) 366-4141

Remarks: See note.

Position: Personnel Management Specialist GS-0201-09/11

Annnc#: R504-020-00G

Close: July 11

Location: Placerville, CA

Agency: Forest Service

POC: Marilyn Rounds (530) 621-5267

Remarks: See note.

Position: Budget And Fiscal Officer GS-501 12/13

Annnc#: ARS-AOW-0326

Close: July 3

Location: Albany, CA

Agency: USDA, Agricultural Research Service

POC: USDA (510) 559-6014

Remarks: See note.

Position: Personnel Management Specialist GS-0201-09/11

Annnc#: R504-021-00G

Close: July 12

Location: Placerville, CA

Agency: Forest Service

POC: Marilyn Rounds (530) 621-5267

Remarks: See note.

Position: Employee Relations Specialist GS-230-11/12

Annnc#: None

Close: June 28

Location: Vallejo, CA

Agency: USDA Forest Service

POC: Christina Hendricks (707) 562-8750

Remarks: See note.

Non-Federal Jobs

Position: Computer Demonstrator

Salary: \$9.00 hour

Close:

Location: McClellan AFB, BX

Agency: Compag

POC: June Blaak 643-5554

Remarks: See note. Review the announcement and contact the agency for additional information.

Position: Building Inspector I/II

Salary: \$2,717-3,647 month

Close: June 30

Location: Davis, CA

Agency: The City of Davis

POC: Human Resource Office (530) 757-5644

Remarks: See note. Review the announcement and contact the agency for additional information.

Position: Apprentice Electrician

Salary: \$13.95 to \$24.01

Close: Continuous

Location: Sacramento, CA

Agency: SMUD

POC: SMUD Human Resources

Remarks: See note. Review the announcement and contact the agency for additional information.

Position: Apprentice Cable Splicer/Elec

Salary: \$13.95 to \$24.16

Close: Continuous

Location: Sacramento, CA

Agency: SMUD

POC: SMUD Human Resources

Remarks: See note. Review the announcement and contact the agency for additional information.

NEWS NOTES

Edwards open house Tuesday

More pay for the same work. Representatives from Edwards Air Force Base will be in the FOCUS center Tuesday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., to discuss and interview for vacancies.

Edwards is in dire need of engineers, which is the focus of their visit. However, they are also recruiting for management analysts, budget, accounting, computer specialists, computer scientists and possibly more. Personnelists and engineers will be on hand to conduct interviews and answer general questions.

For more information, call Greg Eason at 643-5661, for an interview appointment, or visit the open house to ask general questions. Open to all McClellan employees, civilian and military. (*Administrative leave may be used to attend this function.*)

Here's an opportunity to make some extra money!

The McClellan Inn is looking for house-keeping staff. Great environment, flexible hours, may include holidays and weekends. For more information, call the non appropriated funds personnel office at 643-4296.



Movies

Movies start at 7 p.m., unless otherwise noted, in Bldg. 1417. Movies are subject to change.

Held Up - Friday

Starring: Jamie Fox, Nia Long

Mike is having a bad day. As if it wasn't bad enough that he gets stuck out in the middle of nowhere, he then gets dumped by his girl, Rae and gets his vintage sports car jacked by a 14-year-old. (PG - language, violence, and sensuality)

Battlefield Earth - Saturday

Starring: John Travolta, Barry Pepper

It's the year 3000 and things aren't going well on Earth. There are only 35,000 human beings left on the planet. The rest were wiped out by a deadly gas spread a thousand years earlier by the fierce Psychlos who conquered Earth as they did many other planets in the universe. (PG-13 - intense sci-fi action)

Where the Heart Is - Sunday

Starring: Natalie Portman, Stockard Channing

Novalee and her "Wal-Mart baby" become instant celebrities when she gives birth on the floor revealing her hideaway. Novalee finally becomes part of an unconventional, make-shift family comprised of her wonderfully eccentric new friends. (PG - language and sexual content)

Youth Center

■ **Today:** Open recreation, 2-6 p.m.; open gym, 2-3 p.m.; open snack bar, 2-5 p.m.; advanced gymnastics, 3:15-4:15 p.m.; Moms, Pops, and Tots, 10-11 a.m.

■ **Friday:** Open recreation, snack bar and gym, 2-6 p.m.; Teen night, ages 13-18, 6:30-10 p.m., members free, nonmembers \$2.

■ **Saturday:** Open recreation and snack bar from noon-5 p.m. Art Club meets at noon.

■ **Sunday:** Closed

■ **Monday:** Open recreation and gym, 2-6 p.m.; open snack bar, 2-5 p.m.

■ **Tuesday:** Open recreation, 2-6 p.m.; open gym, 2-3 p.m. and 4:15-6 p.m.; open snack bar, 2-5 p.m.; beginning gymnastics, 3:15-4:15 p.m.; Water rafting trip, ages 13-18, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

■ **Wednesday:** Open recreation, 2-6 p.m.; open gym, 2-5:15 p.m.; open snack bar, 2-5 p.m.; beginning dance lessons, 5:30-6:30 p.m. and 6:30-7:30 p.m.

For more information, call 643-2074.

Commissary's "Best Value" promises quality at lowest prices

By Bonnie Powell

Defense Commissary Agency

FORT LEE, Va. -- What's in a name? For some shoppers, everything. For others, price is the most important factor in their grocery-buying decisions.

The Defense Commissary Agency is kicking off its "Best Value" program in July to make the job of bargain hunting easier for military shoppers. "Best Value Item" signs at store entrances and on grocery shelves will assure shoppers they're getting a great price on a quality product.

"The Best Value program identifies items that are the lowest price at the name-brand quality our customers expect," said Gary Duell, manager of the agency's Marketing Business Unit. The program responds to the many customers who've indicated that saving money is their No. 1 priority, he said.

Best Value prices will also be lower than premium quality store brands sold at retail groceries, he added. Retail grocers often have "store" or "private label" brands that vary in quality and price. Commissaries, by regulation, are only permitted to carry widely

available "name brands," which might not be the least expensive choice.

The Best Value program won't apply to every size and type of grocery item carried by commissaries, according to Duell. The number of signs displayed and pricing comparisons needed would be overwhelming for customers and employees. In addition, the item list may change frequently according to market conditions.

"To kick off the program, we're focusing on approximately 50 popular products in the most frequently purchased sizes," Duell said. A customer who wants the rock-bottom price on a quality 30-count box of garbage bags can simply look for the "Best Value" sign. The price, he said, will be lower than the same size of any other brand in the commissary — or any other local grocery store.

"We're working hard to help our shoppers save money," said Duell. "We already average 27 percent savings overall, but we want even more for our customers. Surveys show that the commissary is ranked among the top two benefits, and the agency's job is to make that benefit even more valuable." (Courtesy of American Forces Press Service)

Mammogram films available

Women who have had mammograms done at the McClellan Clinic Radiology Department should stop by and pick the films up. The mammography films are available for immediate pickup. This announcement applies to all active duty, dependents of active duty and retired fe-

males. The radiology department will be shipping all X-ray films to St. Louis, Mo. for permanent storage.

For more information, call the radiology department at 643-8419. (Information provided by the 77th Medical Operations Squadron.)

77th Services Division offers summer fun

■ **Gold panning:** Saturday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cost is \$26.

■ **American River rafting:** Tuesday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cost is \$25.

For more information, call outdoor recreation at 643-0400.

McClellan turns over reactor to UC Davis

The ceremonial transfer of the McClellan Nuclear Radiation Center from the Air Force to the University of California at Davis took place Friday with the passing of the key from Jim Barone, director of the Sacramento Air Logistics Center to Larry Vanderhoef, chancellor of UC Davis.

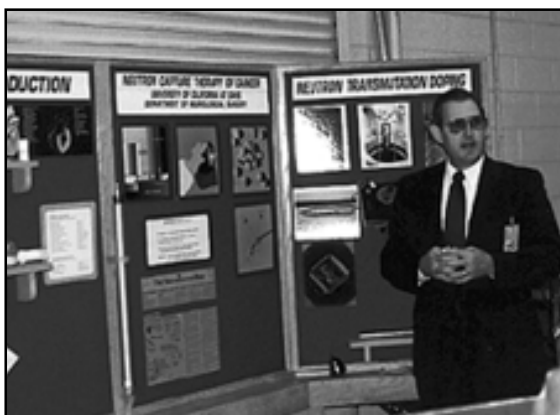
Davis plans to use the Nuclear Radiation Center for research, education and commercial purposes.

"As McClellan Air Force Base is drawing toward closure and closing the books on many programs, it is rewarding to be involved in and see a new chapter opening for UC Davis and the McClellan nuclear reactor," said Jim Barone. "Turning over the reactor to UC Davis is a win-win situation for all parties involved."

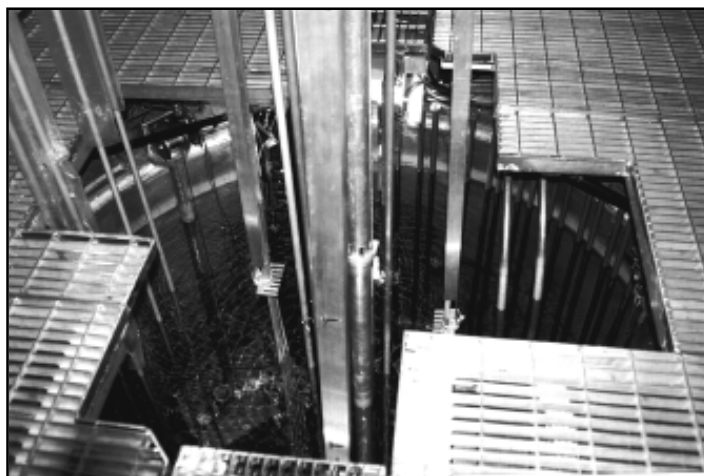
The radiation center was built by the Air Force in 1990 to detect early corrosion and hidden defects in airplanes. At its heart is a two-megawatt reactor designed to produce beams of neutrons. It is the newest such reactor in the United States.

Its value in 1990 was \$16 million; today it is estimated at \$40 million.

Dr. Wade Richards, director of McClellan Nuclear Radiation Center, describes the purpose and functionalities of the center.



U.S. Air Force photo by Robin Jackson



U.S. Air Force photo by Robin Jackson

Pictured above is the reactor chamber of the two-megawatt facility designed to produce beams of neutrons.

In 1993, researchers started to find nonmilitary uses for the reactor. Soon semiconductor manufacturers were using it to improve the conductivity of materials. Cancer specialists at the UC Davis Medical Center began to develop an experimental treatment for brain tumors.

For now, UC Davis holds a 50-year lease on the reactor and the surrounding 2.35 acres in what has become the private McClellan Business Park. Eventually, the lease will convert to a deed of ownership.

The reactor will remain at its present location, 25 miles from the main UC Davis campus and 10 miles from UC Davis Medical Center in Sacramento. Safety measures will continue to be overseen by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, as required for all nuclear reactors. *(Information provided from UC Davis news service)*

SWAP MEET

For Sale

Co-sleeper crib/play yard -- elevated crib with drop down side attaches to parents bed, can be used as a portable crib, play yard and changing table, includes sheets, carrying case and interior pads. In new cond, \$80. Call 334-0876.

Household items -- 6' Lazy Boy sofa, high back, light color w/floral print, \$175; 2 new maple end tables, \$50; 2 crystal antique lamps, \$100; air walker exerciser, Trek 500, \$15. 10' artificial Christmas tree, \$40. Call 315-9004.

Misc -- Ford Ranger bed liner, 2 yrs old, \$100, half the price of a new one; Wood canopy waterbed w/mirrors, 6 drawers, no mattress, \$200; 2 kids bikes, 1 boy, 1 girl, gd cond, \$20 ea. Call 332-7037.

PCS Sale -- Tires and rims off Toyota pickup, 195R14, \$100; 2 wicker bar stools, \$30;

dinette, \$50; 3 dog houses, \$20 ea. Call 334-2153 for list of other items.

Sail plane -- Spirit sail plane, 78.5-inch wing-span, 40-inch length, weight 28 ounces, \$50 obo. Call (530) 755-2109 after 5 p.m.

Wanted -- Military memorabilia including: insignia, ribbons, wings, patches, medals, flags and anything unit specific. No clothes other than flight and bomber jackets. Anything World War II and before. Call Maury at 722-3880 or send e-mail to mkmarch@softcom.net.

Yard Sale -- Multi-family yard sale Saturday, 9 a.m., 5645 Rafferty Ave., in base housing. Childrens items, books and other household goods for sale.

Editor's note: Swap ads are a free, space-available-only service for military members, civil service employees, retirees and associated family

members possessing current ID cards. The ads must be for the personal use of the card holder.

Only a home phone or address may be used in the ad; no base extensions or base e-mail addresses are allowed, except for dormitory residents (residential status must be stated on ad). Personal e-mail addresses will be accepted. Drop off ads at Bldg. 200, room 125. Swap ads will not be published without a signature.

The deadline is noon, Wednesday for possible publication in the following Thursday's issue. Only one Swap ad per household per week, up to 50 words, may be submitted.

However, the ad can apply to more than one category, such as items wanted/trade, vehicles, furniture and yard sales. Spacemaker reserves the right to edit. No ads for money-making businesses, including daycare, or the sale of firearms or firearm accessories will be accepted. To run a swap ad again, it must be resubmitted. For more information, call the Spacemaker at 643-6100.